

previous two chapters. There was minimal new information provided, although the format followed the same pattern as the last two chapters (the practical education of the defense attorney and prosecutor). The author, however, made the reader aware in his introduction that some of the material would seem repetitive. Chapter 6 does reflect a number of judges' internal feelings about the plea bargaining process. Unfortunately, a sizeable body of footnoted comments caused "overkill." After reading three chapters that were well integrated with extensive footnoted comments, the reader would have benefited from a more balanced approach in this chapter.

In the final chapter, Heumann does a good job in drawing everything together to explore some of the implications of his findings. He also gives the reader some food for thought when he suggests alternatives to plea bargaining styles, plea bargaining reform, and some ideas for comparative studies in this area.

In summary, Heumann can consider his book a noteworthy piece of work that is a welcome addition to criminal justice literature. Heumann affords students and general readers an opportunity to broaden their understanding of the mechanics of plea bargaining. The author also gives the reader a sampling of how research is done in the court setting. Many of the personal feelings of the actors involved in plea bargaining are shared through interview comments placed effectively throughout the volume. This book gives the reader a new dimension in which to evaluate the plea bargaining process.

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**Police Deployment** edited by Richard C. Larson; Urban Public Safety Systems, Volume I.

Lexington Books, (D.C. Heath and Company, 125 Spring Street, Lexington, Massachusetts 02173), 1978, 226 pp., \$21.00 (hardcover).

In these days of budget crises, a book describing how to effect an increase in police efficiency without an increase in manpower is welcome indeed. The problem with such a book is determining the audience, and therefore the level of technical content that should be included. If the audience is the police administrator, technical content should be almost nil; if it is the lower echelons within the department, a moderate amount might be included, if the audience comprises technical consultants and technically trained police staff, one might even include the computer programs. (Although the computer programs are not included in the book, they are available from the author for not much more than the cost of the computer tape.)

My own feeling is that a book of this sort should be pitched at the middle level. I expect that police administrators will have heard about these new methods of police resource allocation through seminars and will request their staffs to "look into it and let me know what it can do for us."

But writing a book at the middle level is not a simple task. One must bridge the gap between the researcher and the practitioner, while being careful not to drown the reader in equations or assumptions, and at the same time not glossing over important limitations (and assumptions) that may not hold in specific situations.

Most quantitatively oriented researchers in criminal justice, myself included, are quite familiar with the utility and applicability of the methods described in *Police Deployment*. My review, therefore, focuses not on the substantive aspects of the book but on their presentation.

The book describes computer-based techniques that can be used to determine the effect of different police patrol allocation policies on a number of variables of interest: mean travel time; mean response time (dispatch delay time + travel time); workload; and percentage of out-of-beat dispatches handled by a beat car. It explores how the techniques work in three different (and useful) ways: a brief introduction to the theories; three examples of their use that would be appreciated by a police planner; and a description of "what to do when you sit down to play with the computer." Other chapters touch on the applicability of multiattribute utility functions in making police resource allocation decisions, on the use of search theory in planning police patrol, and on comparing the use of O.W. Wilson's hazard formula to these methods in allocating police resources.

This book is a collection of papers, not an integrated book. As a result, there are some organizational problems. (1) It is frequently repetitious; however, I do not consider this a cardinal sin, especially when one is presenting technical material to a lay audience. (2) There is a glossary in one of the papers that should have been expanded and used for the entire book. (3) The papers aim at different audiences. The papers by Bodily and Chelst are important extensions of the methods developed in the rest of the book and will be read with interest by police researchers. However, they are too theoretical for what I see as the primary audience of the book; perhaps they were included to broaden the readership.

The book has some excellent features. First, it demonstrates the use of the techniques in real settings, including a paper by members of the Quincy (Massachusetts) Police Department. Second, the discussion of the system states and transitions is as lucid a description as can be found anywhere. Third, it shows police how the data they collect can be used for planning, not just for compiling statistics for annual reports. Fourth, it shows how police departments can use the models to allocate resources without relying on outside experts to do it for them (at least, after the initial training), and how they can deal with the conflicting objectives of equalizing workloads among police officers, and equalizing service to the public throughout the city.

For someone interested in these methods but unfamiliar with them, I would suggest reading Chapter 3 first, then starting at the front of the book and working through it. It is not all easy reading, but it does give the interested reader an appreciation of the value of these methods and their application to police planning.

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